IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): ~~A~~ In a process for the production of particles comprising at least one core of swellable organic polymer core material containing perfume absorbed therein, the core being coated with at least one water-soluble encapsulating material that is impervious to the said perfume, the ~~process~~ improvement comprising:

a) preparing an aqueous slurry by mixing together the ~~mixing at least one~~ water-soluble encapsulating material, an aqueous solution, ~~at least one~~ the core material and ~~at least one~~ perfume ~~to produce a slurry thereof~~;

b) ~~heating~~ preheating the slurry to reduce the water content thereof, to less than 15% by weight and provide ~~so as to produce~~ a molten or rubbery mass having a temperature between its glass transition (Tg) and its melting point (Tm) ~~from the slurry, wherein heating is effected at least in part in a pre-heater~~;

c) ~~extruding~~ passing the molten or rubbery mass into an extruder and extruding the mass through a die, wherein extrusion is carried out at a temperature of 70°C to 240°C such that the temperature of the extruded material is not more than about 25°C above the glass transition temperature of the water-solution encapsulating materials, the ~~using~~ ~~an~~ extruder having an internal diameter greater than about 45 mm, the extruder having all conveying screw profiles and having no mixing paddles or kneading elements in the screw profile; and

d) physically processing the extruded material to produce particles.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented): A process according to claim 1, wherein the preheating is carried out with low shear rising film packed plate heat exchanger.

6. (previously amended): A process according to claim 1, wherein extrusion is carried out using an extruder having an internal diameter greater than about 60 mm.

7. (canceled)

8. (previously amended): A process according to claim 1, wherein the water-soluble encapsulating material is present in an amount in the range 20% weight to 60% weight~~,~~ based on the weight of the slurry.

9. (currently amended): A process according to claim ~~9~~ 8, wherein the aqueous solution is present in an amount in the range 10% weight to 30% weight based on the weight of the slurry.

10. (currently amended): A process according to claim ~~8~~ 9, where core material is present in an amount in the range 5% weight to 50% weight based on the weight of the slurry.

11. (previously amended): A process according to claim 10, wherein perfume is present in an amount 10% weight to 60% weight based on the weight of the slurry.

12. (previously presented): A process according to claim 1, wherein the slurry includes colouring material.

13. (currently amended): A process according to claim 1, wherein the extruded material is processed by ~~a technique selected from~~ chopping, cutting, grinding ~~and~~ or pulverising to produce particles.

14. (previously presented): A process according to claim 1, wherein the slurry is heated to a temperature in the range 40°C to 170°C.

15. (canceled).

16. (canceled).

17. (canceled).

18. (canceled).

19. (canceled).